

Patent claims

1. A kit for the determination of a T-cell and/or inflammatory effector cell derived mediator directly in vivo in serum, comprising a mouse wherein the majority of T cells express a transgenic MHC class I restricted or MHC class II restricted T cell receptor.
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2. A kit according to claim 1 comprising as main components
 - a. a mouse wherein the majority of T cells express a transgenic MHC class I restricted or MHC class II restricted T cell receptor,
 - 10 b. a MHC restricted TCR specific OVA-peptide,
 - c. optionally a triggering agent,
 - d. optionally controls, standards and/or calibration means,
 - e. optionally detection means for a T-cell and/or inflammatory effector cell derived mediator, and
 - 15 f. instructions for using the components of said kit.
3. A process for determination of a T-cell and/or inflammatory effector cell derived mediator in serum of an OVA-peptide stimulated mouse wherein the majority of T cells express a transgenic MHC class I or MHC class II restricted T cell receptor, which process
20 comprises the steps of
 - a. administering to a mouse wherein the majority of T cells express a transgenic MHC class I restricted or MHC class II restricted T cell receptor a MHC restricted TCR specific OVA-peptide and optionally a triggering agent, and
 - b. determining the level of a T-cell and/or inflammatory effector cell derived mediator
25 produced.
4. A method for identifying an agent that interferes with T cell activation and/or -differentiation and/or modulation of other inflammatory effector cells comprising the steps of
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 - a. administering to a mouse wherein the majority of T cells express a transgenic MHC class I or MHC class II restricted T cell receptor a MHC restricted TCR specific OVA-peptide and optionally a triggering agent,
 - b. administering to a transgenic mouse of step a) a candidate compound before, after or simultaneously with the peptide and optionally a triggering agent of step a),

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c. determining the level of a T-cell and/or inflammatory effector cell derived mediator in serum of

c1. a mouse treated according to step a), and

c2. a mouse treated according to step b) and step a),

5 d. determining whether there is a difference in the level of said mediator produced in said serum, and

e. choosing an agent as determined in step d).

10 5. The use of an agent identified by a method of claim 4 as a pharmaceutical.

6. The use of a mouse wherein the majority of T cells express a transgenic MHC class I or MHC class II restricted T cell receptor in a method for the identification of an agent that interferes with T cell activation and/or –differentiation and/or modulation of other inflammatory effector cells.

15 7. The use of a mouse wherein the majority of T cells express a transgenic MHC class I or MHC class II restricted T cell receptor in a method for the determination of a T-cell and/or inflammatory effector cell derived mediator in the serum of said mouse.

20 8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one agent that interferes with T cell activation and/or –differentiation and/or modulation of other inflammatory effector cells identified by the method of claim 4 beside pharmaceutically acceptable excipient(s).

25 9. A method for the treatment of a disease which is based on an unwanted or aberrant immune response, comprising administering an agent identified by a method of claim 4 or a pharmaceutical composition of claim 8 to a subject in need of such a treatment.

30 10. A method according to claim 9 characterized in that the disease which is based on an unwanted or aberrant immune response is selected from the group consisting of allergic disease, transplantation, autoimmune related disease, inflammatory disease and modulation/ stimulation of a tumor specific or pathogen specific response.